

Message Text

SECRET

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16

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /079 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1104

INFO USNAVCOMMSTA HAROLD E. HOLT

COMNAVCOM WASH

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCPACREP CANBERRA

CNO WASHDC

S E C R E T CANBERRA 3327

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, AS, US

SUBJ: POSSIBILITY OF ELF SYSTEM MAKING FACILITIES LIKE
NORTHWEST CAPE COMMUNICATIONS STATION REDUNDANT

REF: STATE 118023

1. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT A) CONSIDER DISCUSSING WITH AUSTRALIAN TEAM DURING CONSULATIONS ON NORTHWEST CAPE STATION THAT PERTINENCY OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK ON ELF TRANSMISSIONS TO THE FUTURE OF NORTHWEST CAPE COMMUNICATIONS STATION AND B) INFORM EMBASSY ON SAME POINT AND PROVIDE US WITH INFORMATION OR STATEMENT ON SUBJECT WHICH COULD BE USED PUBLICLY HERE IN RESPONSE TO PRESS INQUIRIES.

2. DURING PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF CONSULATIONS ON NORTHWEST CAPE STATION DURING PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, QUESTION HAS BEEN RAISED IN PRESS WHETHER EXTRA LOW FREQUENCY SYSTEM REPORTEDLY NOW UNDER RESEARCH IN U. S. MAY NOT MAKE VLF STATIONS LIKE NORTHWEST CAPE UNNECESSARY. DEFENSE MINISTER BARNARD ALLUDED TO THIS POSSIBILITY IN TALK BEFORE ACADEMIC AUDIENCE IN APRIL 1972 AND HAS REPEATED THIS SUGGESTION IN PUBLIC RECENTLY

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IN CONNECTION WITH CONSULTATIONS OVER NORTHWEST CAPE STATION.

3. EMBASSY NOT INFORMED ABOUT STATUS OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ELF SYSTEM, ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND IT MAY USE DESCRIPTIVE NAME PROJECT SANGUINE WITHIN USG. IF OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO DISCUSS ELF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT WITH AUSTRALIAN NEGOTIATING TEAM IN WASHINGTON IN CONNECTION WITH NORTHWEST CAPE CONSULTATIONS. IN ANY CASE, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED WHETHER THIS PROPOSED SYSTEM CAN BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO LONGEVITY OF NORTHWEST CAPE STATION. WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY INFORMATION OR STATEMENT WHICH COULD BE USED PUBLICLY IN AUSTRALIA IN RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE QUESTIONS.
GREEN

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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